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The Canadian Philatelist.

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L. M. STAEBLER,
EDITOR AND PUBLISHER,
185½ DUNDAS STREET,
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UNUSED STAMPS.

	10.	100.
Argentine, 1864, reprints, 3 var., evenly assorted	20	1 50
" 1892, ½ cent, blue	8	65
" " 1 cent, brown	15	—
" " 2 cent, green	25	—
Bogota, ½ cent, black	10	75
British North Borneo, ½ cent, rose	12	—
Bavaria, 1870, 1 kr. green and 3 kr. rose	5	25
Bolivia, 1 cent, red, rouletted	15	1 40
Canada, Register, 2 cent, orange	30	2 90
Canada, ½ cent, black	8	60
Canada, 1868, 12½ cent, blue	2 50	22 25
Cape Verd, crown, 25 reis, rose	20	—
Chamba State, assorted	25	1 75
Costa Rica, ½ cent, real blue	10	75
Ecuador, 7 var., evenly assorted	15	95
Hamburg, well assorted	10	50
Heligoland, finely assorted	15	1 25
Mexico, 1864, 1 real, red	10	75
Mozambique, crown, 25 reis, rose	25	2 00
New Brunswick, 1 cent, violet	75	7 00
" " 2 cent, orange	45	4 25
" " 5 cent, green	25	2 00
" " 17 cent, black	2 00	19 00
Panama, 1892. 1 cent, green	15	1 40
Sardinia, newspaper, 1 cent, black	5	35
Sardinia. 15 cent, blue	5	20
Servia, 1869, 20p, blue	10	70
Servia, 1869, 25p, rose	20	1 40
Servia, 1869, 40p, violet	15	1 40
Servia, 1869, 2p, black	08	60
Servia, 1879, 10p, orange	12	90
St. Thomas and Prince, 25 reis, rose	20	1 90
St. Thomas and Prince, 50 reis, blue	25	2 00
Switzerland, 1874, 2 cent, bister	5	30
" 1878, 40 cent, gray	5	45
" 1882, 5 cent, brown.	5	30
" 1882, 20 cent, yellow	5	35
" 1862, 10 cent, rose	5	30
Sarawak, 1892, 1 cent on 3 cent, brown on yellow.	40	—
" " 1 cent	25	—
U. S. Interior Department, 1 cent, vermilion	1 00	9 00
" " " 2 " "	50	4 25
" officially sealed	25	25
U. S. War Dep't, 1 cent, red	20	1 75
U. S. Interior Department, 3 cent, vermilion	30	2 50

USED STAMPS.

	10.	100.
Argentine Republic, well ass	5	45
" " 1890, 5 cent, red	5	40
Australian assortment	—	20
Austria, 1892, 30 kr, brown	13	1 25
Argentine Wrappers, ½c, brown	10	—
Austria, 1st, 2nd and 3rd issues, well assorted	05	40
Bosnia, 10 n, blue	15	—
British Colonies, good assortment	05	35
Bavaria, 1 mark, violet	15	—
Brazil, well assorted	5	50
British Guiana, 1876, 1 cent, slate	10	70
" " 2 cent, orange	7	60
" 1891, 1 cent, green	5	50
" 1889, 2 cent, mauve	5	45
" four varieties finely assorted	6	55
Bolivia, well assorted	5	25
Canada, 1859, 10c. violet, assorted shades	1 60	16 00
Canada, 1859, 12½c. green	1 60	15 00
Canada, 1868, 1c. brown red	1 15	11 00
Canada, 1868, 6c. chocolate	50	4 50
Canada Bill, 1st issue, 1 cent blue	15	1 40
Canada Bill, 1st issue, 2 cent blue	15	1 40
Canada Bill, 1st issue, 3 cent blue	10	90
Canada Bill, 1st issue, 6 cent blue	10	90
Canada Bill, 1st issue 9 cent blue	10	90
Canada Bill, 1st issue, 10 cent blue	25	—
Canada Bill, 1st issue, 20 cent blue	50	—
Canada Bill, 1st issue, 50 cent blue	1 00	9 00
Canada Bill, 1st issue, well assorted	15	1 25
Canada Bill, 2nd issue, 1 cent scarlet	15	1 10
Canada Bill, 2nd issue, 2 cent scarlet	15	1 10
Canada Bill, 2nd issue, 3 cent scarlet	10	50
Canada Bill, 2nd issue, 6 cent scarlet	10	60
Canada Bill, 2nd issue, 7 & 8 cent scarlet, assorted	2 00	18 00
Canada Bill, 2nd issue, 9 cent scarlet	10	60
Canada Bill, 2nd issue, 10 cent blue	45	4 00
Canada Bill, 2nd issue, 30 cent blue	70	6 50
Canada Bill, 2nd issue, 50 cent blue	95	9 00
Canada Bill, 3rd issue, 1c brown	05	40
Canada Bill, 3rd issue, 2c red	05	40
Canada Bill, 3rd issue, 3c green	05	20
Canada Bill, 3rd issue, 6c green	05	25
Canada Bill, 3rd issue, 9c green	05	25
Canada Bill, 3rd issue, 10c blue	05	45
Canada Bill, 3rd issue, 20c blue	10	60
Canada Bill, 3rd issue, 30c blue	10	75
Canada Bill, 3rd issue, $1 blue and black	—	—
Canada current, 5c and 6c evenly assorted	07	50
Cuba, 1857, ½ r. p. blue	10	80
Cuba, 1866, 10c blue	20	1 75
Cuba, 1867, 10c blue	15	1 40
Cuba, 1864, ½ r. p. green	15	1 40
Cuba, 1871, 25c blue	10	90
Cuba, 1874, 25c blue	10	90
Cuba, 1879, 25c blue	10	75
Cuba, 1876, 25c lilac	10	90
Cuba, 1876, 50c blue	25	—
Cuba, 1875, 25c blue	10	90
Cuba, 1871, 50c green	20	—
Cuba, 1873, 25c lilac	10	—
Cuba, 1873, 50c brown	25	—
Cuba, 1878, 25c green	10	90
Cuba, 1869, 10c brown	10	90
Canada Revenues, well assorted	**7**	**50**
Canada, 1882, ½ cent, black	5	45
" register, 2 cent, orange	5	45
" " 2 cent, carmine	10	65
" " 5 cent, green	5	40
" 1859, 1 cent, pink	25	2 45
" " 5 cent, red	16	1 50
" 1853, 3d, red	1 60	15 00
Dutch Indies, assorted	5	45
Dutch Indies, 1870, 10c, brown	05	30
Dutch Indies, 1884, 2c, brown	05	35
Egypt, assorted	05	40
Finland, assorted	05	25
Foreign Revenues, very finely assorted	**10**	**75**
Gibraltar, 2 varieties, assorted	25	1 90
Grenada, 1892, 1d on 8d, bister	2 25	18 00
Grenada, 1892, 1d on 6d, violet	2 25	18 00
Grenada, 1883, ½d green	15	1 25
Grenada, 1883, 1d rose	20	1 60
Grenada, 1883, 2½ blue	20	—
Greece, finely assorted	05	30
Gibraltar, 2 varieties, well assorted	20	1 75
Henchal, 3 varieties assorted	25	2 25
India, On H. M. S., assorted	05	25
India, well assorted	5	20
Italy, well assorted	—	10
Italy, unpaid, 50 and 100 lire, evenly assorted	1 40	12 25
Japan, 2 sen., red	—	10
Japan. 15 sen., violet	5	25
Jamaica, well assorted	5	40
Malta, 2½, blue	20	1 75
Mexico, official, brown	10	60
Mexican Revenues, finely assorted	**10**	**70**
" 1888, 10 cent, scarlet	4	20
" " 20 " "	20	1 50
" " 25 " "	30	2 50
" 1884, 50 cent, green	70	6 00
Mexico, 1886, 1c green	05	40
Mexico, 1886, 2c carmine	07	50
Mexico, 1888, 3c scarlet	10	65
Mexico, 1888, 4c scarlet	10	65
Mexico, 1886, 5c blue	05	40
Mexico, fine assortment	07	50
Newfoundland, 1890, 3c slate	30	—
Natal. 1d rose	05	25
New Zealand, 1882, 4d sea green	14	1 25
New Zealand, 1882, 6d brown	20	1 75
New Zealand, Insurance Dep't, 1891, ½d violet	25	2 25
New Zealand, Insurance Dep't, 1891, 1d blue	15	1 40
New Zealand, Insurance Dep't, 1891, 2d red brown.	25	2 25
New South Wales, 1889, official, 1d violet	05	50
New South Wales, 1889, official, 2d blue	05	50
Newfoundland, 3 cent, brown	15	1 25
New Zealand, ½, 1, 2d, assorted	—	15
New Zealand Revenues, assorted	07	50
Norway, well assorted	—	15
New South Wales, assorted	5	20
Nova Scotia, 3d, blue	8 25	—
" 5 cent, blue	1 20	11 00
Portuguese Indies, 1886, 6r, green	20	—
Puttialla State Service, ½a, green	15	1 25
" " " 1a, brown	25	2 00
" " " 3 var., assorted	20	1 75
Portugal, 1879, 150 ries, yellow	40	3 75
Portuguese Indies, 3 varieties, assorted	20	1 50
Portugal, finely assorted	—	15
Queensland, assorted	05	20

St. Vincent, 1889, 2½d on 1d	1 60	9 50
Spain, 1872, 12 de p. mauve	15	1 25
South Australia, 1887, 6d, blue	15	1 20
Switzerland, finely assorted	—	10
South America, finely assorted	—	50
Sweden, finely assorted	—	15
Spain, well assorted	—	15
Travancore, 1 ch, blue	25	—
Trinidad, 1883, ½d green	10	75
Trinidad, 1883, 1d rose	10	75
Trinidad, 1883, 2½d blue	20	1 50
United States Revenue, 2c orange, U. S. I. R.	—	10
" " " 2c " Bank check	—	10
" " " 2c blue, "	—	10
" " 1872, 1c blue	—	10
" " 1872, 3c green	—	10
" " 1882, 2c claret	—	8
" " 1884, 4c carmine	15	1 40
" " 1890, 4, 5 and 10 assorted	5	25
U. S , 1869, 6 cent, blue	3 00	—
U. S., 1861, 1 cent, blue	20	1 75
U. S., 1863, 2 cent, black	20	1 75
U. S., 1857, 1 cent, blue	80	7 50
U. S., 1869, 3 cent, blue	13	1 10
U. S., 1883, 4 cent green	10	75
U. S., 1885, 5 cent blue	08	45
U. S., 1882, 5 cent brown	06	45
U. S., 1872, 10 cent brown	06	40
U. S., 1890, 3 cent, violet	10	—
U. S., 1890, 6 cent, brown-red	25	—
U. S. Columbians, assorted	—	15
U. S. Postage Due, 2 cent, claret	05	20
U. S. Postage Due, assorted	05	30
U. S. Envelopes, finely assorted	05	20
U. S. of Columbia, assorted	05	45
U. S., 1890, 10 cent green	5	20
" 1851, "	3 75	—
U. S. Postage Due, 1 cent, claret	5	30
" " 8 cent, brown	10	90
" " 10 cent, brown	15	1 40
" " 3 cent	10	90
" " 6 cent	30	2 75
Victoria, 1884, 3d, bister	20	1 90
" 4d. carmine	20	1 90
Western Australia, 1889, 1d rose	40	3 25
" " " 2d slate	55	5 00
" " 1890, 1d rose	10	90
Wurtemberg, well assorted	05	25
Wurtemberg Official, 1875, 5pf	15	—
Wurtember Official Envelope, sq. cut, '75, 5pf	60	5 00

STAMPS BY THE 1,000.

*Means Unused.	Per 1000	Per 5000
Argentine, finely assorted	3 75	17 50
British Guiana, well assorted	3 80	18 00
Canada, 1859, 5c red	16 00	75 00
" " 1c pink	25 00	—
" Register, 5c green	3 50	15 00
per 100,000, $275		
" common, well assorted	35	1 50
per 100,000, $25		
Mexico, '88, 10c scarlet	1 50	7 00
" " 20c "	13 00	55 00
" finely assorted	3 50	15 00
Mexico, official brown	5 00	20 00
*New Brunswick, 5c green	20 00	98 00
* " " 2c orange	40 00	190 00
New Zealand, well assorted	1 40	6 00
Portugal, "	1 20	6 00
*Sardinia, 1 and 15c, assorted	2 25	—
United States Postage Due, 2c	1 50	—
" " Revenues, 3 var., finely ass	1 50	6 00
United States, 1872, 1c blue	90	4 00
" " " 3c green	80	3 50
" " 1882, 2c claret	65	3 00

SETS OF STAMPS.

†Means Unused.	3 Sets.	10 Sets.
†Argentine, 1864, reprints, 3 var. complete	20	50
British Guiana, 4 var	10	20
Canada, 20 varieties	25	80
Canada, 50 varieties	2 25	6 50
†Ecuador, 1872-87, 1 to 50c, 7 varieties	20	60
" " 1c to 1 peso, 10 var	75	2 00
Italy, Segnatasse, 1, 2, 5, 10 lire	15	45
" " 50 to 100 "	90	2 50
Mexico, current, 1, 2, 3, 5, 10, 20, 25, 50c	35	3 00
†New Brunswick, 1, 2, 5, 17c	1 10	3 25
Puttialla Service, 3 var	20	55
Portugal, 2½ to 100 reis, 12 var		65
Russia, 12 fine var		60
*Servia, 1869-79, 5 varieties	25	80
†Samoa, 1st issue, 8 var. complete	35	95
†Suez, 4 var., complete	45	1 25
Unused stamps, 10 fine var	15	40
100 variety packets	25	75
1000 " "	18 00	60 00

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(24)

The Canadian Philatelist.

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IN THE INTEREST OF STAMP COLLECTING.

VOL. II. No. 8. LONDON, APRIL 25, 1893. WHOLE No. 20

THE SEVERED SPECIMEN.

THE STRANGE STORY OF A STAMP.

By A. Massachusetts Ladd.

I HAD been in Boston for the greater part of the day, and was returning home on the four o'clock train. It was nearly half-past four, and the train was approaching Sharon, having left Canton Junction but five minutes before.

The car in which I sat was nearly filled, and after studying the faces around me, mentally deciding that this one was a mechanic, that one a book-keeper, another one a stock-broker, yet another a coal-dealer and so on; after I had amused myself for half-an-hour in this manner, my material having given out, I took from an inner pocket my pocket album for duplicates. Had it not been for this very incident, trifling as it was, my story would never have been written. On this incident is based the strangest chain of circumstances in which a postage stamp ever played a leading part.

I was still looking at some of the specimens therein, wondering if any of those little bits of paper had any unusual history connected with them, when the train came to a halt at the popular summer resort of Sharon.

A number of passengers alighted and about an equal number got aboard, the majority of whom entered the car in which I was seated. Among the latter was a gentleman, apparently forty years of age, but whom I thought could not be much over thirty. Somewhat above medium height, built in proportion, full brown beard, dark eyes, which would attract attention anywhere—all giving to his face an expression never to be forgotten by the beholder—undoubtedly a man who had had more than his share of trouble in this wide world of ours. I put him down as a traveller whose history would be interesting to hear.

Pausing beside the seat of which I occupied half, he asked in clear, steady tones, which I imagined had a sad ring to them, if the seat, indicating the unoccupied one beside me, was engaged, and, if not, if I had any objection to him sitting there The last clause I thought somewhat strange, but did not quite understand it till some time later. For, surely, if the seat was not engaged, he could and had a perfect right to sit there, whether I objected or not. Few persons are retiring enough in disposition to ask that.

The stranger seated himself, and as I was about to return the duplicate album to my pocket he observed it and asked if he might look at it; also asking if I was a stamp collector. My answer was:

"Yes; are you?"

"Well, not exactly; I was, am not now, and yet I am in a certain way. I'm after a part of a certain stamp; it's all I want for my collection; I'd pay thousands for it."

What did the man mean? However, I asked: "You do and yet you don't? Sort of a 'now you see it and now you don't.'" By the way, basing my question on the affirmative clause of your statement, may I ask the number of stamps in your collection?"

"Yes; *I have half a one.*"

"Half a one?" I ejaculated interrogatively, "I do not quite understand."

"It is a short, sad story, but if you wish I'll tell it to you?"

I assured him that I would be pleased to hear it, whereupon he began.

"You are, or rather will be when I have told you, the only living person to whom I ever imparted my story. But I feel that you are in some way to help me to find the missing part of my stamp and also my darling."

His darling! A woman in the case? Sure. They are always "in it."

"But we haven't told each other our names yet. Here is my card, and he handed me a neat pasteboard, on which was inscribed:

"MAURICE STOCKTON,
The World."

"Do you represent the *World*, Mr. Stockton?"

"Oh, no; I'm no reporter. I have no home; I am a wanderer upon the face of the earth—no city claims me for a citizen. I've travelled the world over in the past seven years, and am at home in one part as well as in another; I've had no home since Marion went away; I have need of none." And his voice was sad indeed.

I then handed Mr. Stockton my card, inscribed thus:

"A. M. LADD,
Detective."

Looking at it he queried:

"You are a detective, then?"

"Yes."

"Then perhaps you can help me. So here is my story:

"Ten—no, eleven years ago I, then a young man of twenty, entered ——College, in New York State. You have probably heard of it."

"Yes; I have been through it."

"Indeed. I'm glad to meet a graduate from there. What class were you in?"

"Oh, I went through as a sight-seeing pedestrian—not as a student."

"Oh," said my seat-mate, in a tone of regret, you joke. "Well I suppose it's all right.

"Well, this institution was on the co-education principle, and therefore young ladies were among the students.

"Among them was one—Marian Littlefield her name was—to whom I seemed attracted. The attraction was mutual. We became acquainted, we fell in love, and oh! we had it bad. Time passed swiftly, and we became engaged, and were to be married one month after graduation."

"Marian Littlefield! Where had I heard that name before? It certainly sounded familiar; it certainly connected somewhere with my memory. But where? I could not remember then."

"I was rich, and so was Marian. So it was not a money alliance. Neither knew of the other's financial status till sometime after we became acquainted. No, it was love. Oh, heaven, how I loved her, and I love her still!"

"She still lives, then?"

"I don't know; that's why I tell you my story; you are a detective; I want you to find her—or her grave.

"Well, about two months before graduation we had a week's vacation. I, by the way, boarded at a boarding house established for the express custom of the students. Marian boarded in a private family, as did most of the girls. The advantage and purpose of this is manifest," and my friend actually smiled, the first such emotion he had exhibited since entering the car.

"I was with her there one evening during the vacation; she did not seem like her usual self; I playfully chided her about it. Then she told me she had a presentment of an approaching evil, just what it was she could not tell, but that it would in some way interfere with our approaching happiness. I laughed at her fears and kissed her, but she refused to be comforted. But I have left out one very important fact in telling you my story. I forgot to tell you we had an additional bond of friendship, besides our mutual love. She was a stamp collector and had a fine collection. Now I can resume intelligibly.

"Opening her album, Marian turned to the page devoted to Costa Rica. Taking therefrom the two reales scarlet stamp of 1865, she tore it in halves, vertically giving it an uneven terminator and handed one part to me, saying, 'take it, Maurice; it was issued in the year I was born. Take it; keep it; cherish it; remember that whatever happens our lives are as those sundered parts—they belong to each other; they should be as one.' And Marian continued in that strange manner for some time. Now I really thought she had been affected by a bad dream, or something of that sort, and would be all right when I would see her on the morrow, and when I left an hour or so later I kissed her tears away and made light of her fears.

"But I didn't see her on the morrow, nor have I seen her since that memorable day when we parted by the mysotis at the gate. Little did I think of the significance of that little blue flower, for, as you probably know, it is also known as the forget-me-not.

"I called for her the next day and was informed that she was not to be found, that she had disappeared during the preceding night, probably toward morning, as her bed showed evidences of having been slept in. Then I remembered her presentment. Had it come true? It seemed so. At about the middle of the afternoon I sent for one of the best known detectives in New York, having informed the local police of the affair, and they having made no progress in the case.

"It was well on toward dusk of the next day when I was startled by the newsboys' cries of 'Here's yer evenin' papers! all about the Littlefield poisonin' case!—only two cents." I bought one in feverish haste, to find out what it all meant. And I did find out. There it was in glaring headlines:

'A FEMALE FIEND.'

"And it went on to tell how Marian Littlefield nad returned from college, and, in some manner unknown, induced her father to draw all his money from the bank, and also to convert into cash most of his personal property, whereupon she poisoned her parents and, with the money, fled with a young man of whom a description was given.

"This was the substance of it; I can't give it in detail. You can imagine my feelings at reading this. It was a great shock to the community as well as to myself. Of course I knew that there was a mistake somewhere. But would others think so, notwithstanding the high estimation in which Marian was held by all who knew her?

"My detective arrived.

"He took up the case and traced the fugitive pair to a town thirty miles away, where he lost all trace of them, and, try as he could, failed to regain it.

"Well, to make a long and bitter story short, the case ran its sensational course in the newspapers, occupied the minds of the various police departments for awhile, and then gave place to newer sensations. It is the way of the world. But I kept several detectives on the case for years, but to no avail. It was the mystery of the times, and remains to-day unsolved."

"Do you consider it a conspiracy?" I asked.

"Yes; most emphatically. Marian has been spirited away somewhere and the scheme carried out by clever criminals,—that's my opinion."

"Perhaps."

"Perhaps! I *know* so! I knew Marian; you didn't or you wouldn't be so skeptical. She was true! Some plot separated us! You are a detective, help me find my lost darling and I'll be your slave. Find the missing part of the severed specimen and you'll find Marian. I see it all now; her presentment told her to do it, and she divided the stamp. Do you think a girl could do as she did and yet be unfaithful?"

"Hardly. But, say; I suppose you have the severed specimen with you?"

"I have it here," and he took from a small envelope in his memorandum book the mutilated piece. It was as he had said, part of the *dos reales* red Costa Rica, issued in 1865. His was the right-hand half.

Handing it back to him, he returned it carefully to its place in his book, bestowing upon it a wistful look as he did so.

He then showed me Marian's photograph, which he always carried with him. She was a beautiful girl—a handsome brunette.

We, after a little more conversation on the subject, which, however, will be of comparatively little interest to the reader, rolled into the Taunton depot.

Standing on the platform, evidently waiting for the train, was a man whom I knew. I thought of my strange seat-mate. and then I knew the mission of the man on the platform.

He was the superintendent of the State Lunatic Asylum at this place.

As my strange friend and I stepped upon the platform, the asylum-keeper touched Stockton on the arm, and told him that he was wanted. My friend look around as if to run, but evidently changed his mind and walked away with Mr. Keeper, admonishing me to remember my promise.

I told him I would, and then went to my home. As customary, when at home of an evening, I took up a daily and started to read, but, try as I would, I could not keep my mind on the words before me. The case of the stranger would rise before. Finally I threw down the paper in disgust, and gave myself up to cogitating on Mr. Stockton's strange case. The name Marian Littlefield kept ringing in my ears. *Where* had I heard it before?

"Ah, I have it!" I exclaimed; my memory came

to my aid. I remembered of having heard my folks speak of the Littlefield poisoning case when I was a boy. It had been the talk in every household, and I had recalled the circumstance after all these years. Why had I not thought of that when my narrator had told his story. I know not and then rose the question: Might not Maurice Stockton be right? might not his story be true? The "Littlefield Case" was a fact, his story was closely connected. Perhaps he was not so badly "off" as I had thought, If it *was* a fact, very likely his troubles had made him so. His manner was merely *strange*, after all; perhaps he had been insane, which would account for his connection with the asylum, but was nearly recovered.

I resolved to investigate.

The next day I left for the city wherein was the college in question Arriving there, I sought police headquarters, where I obtained much information from official records. I visited also the old college, the young lady's boarding-place, and also Mr. Stockton's boarding-place. Then I left for the town where the trace had been lost.

Entering the train, I secured a seat on the left about midway of one of the cars. On the right a few seats ahead, were a couple who attracted my attention. Why? Well, we detectives do a great many things we cannot give reasons for, and many detectives can and will tell you that they owe their successes in many instances to unaccountable suggestions, whose foundations are unknown. So it was in this instance. Then it passed through my mind that with a "little making up" the feminine part of the combination might make a passable *Marian Littlefield*.

Intuition prompted me to devote my attention to them. How? I wanted to get nearer to hear what they said. Fortune favored me. The seat directly behind them was vacated at the next stopping place. I quickly ensconced myself therein. They had not looked around once since I had entered the car, and therefore would not regard me with suspicion.

They were talking to each other in low tones, but on "straining my ears," as the expression goes, I heard them mention the name of the next station, also "Hubbard" and "*Littlefield.*"

Ah, now I thought I saw. My unaccountable suggestions were evolving. "Hubbard," it came to me, was the name of the proprietor of a private madhouse in the town to which I was going—our next stopping-place. And then the mention of the name, "Littlefield." A theory suggested itself in my mind.

"Then," thought I to myself, "I'll bet they are bound there but won't get out there; but I will instead go two stations farther down the road and then 'back-track,' for an 'up' train would come along at the right time to take them up."

"Why two stations instead of one?" the reader may ask. Well, I reasoned thus: A change at the first station would necessitate a wait, whereby more conspicuity would ensue; whereas if they changed at the next station, all they would have to do would be to change trains, thereby courting less attention.

My experience with criminals has taught me that the average one is no fool, as far as smartness is concerned.

I alighted at the next station. Thirty minutes later the "up" train came in, and among the passengers who alighted were my quarries.

"I 'shadowed" them; as I expected, they made their way to the madhouse, though somewhat circuitously. They entered; I boldly followed, entering by means of a picklock which I always carried when "on cases."

I overheard enough to convince me that Marian Littlefield was incarcerated there, and that the precious pair were none other than a certain "criminal duet," well known to the police authorities all over the country, and whose whereabouts were at that time unknown. Though they were "wanted," and I could officially and legally arrest them, I needed a warrant to search the madhouse. These institutions—the private ones—are always objects of suspicion to the authorities, but something tangible must be obtained against them before they can be interfered with. Hence, deciding I could get out and obtain the necessity and return before my game would leave, I ran the risk and went at once to headquarters. Returning with two officers, and armed with a search warrant, I rang the bell; the proprietor, Hubbard, answered in person. At the sight of the officers he turned pale. At the mention of Marian Littlefield's name he turned still paler, and denied that she was there.

His denial convicted him, for I had said nothing about her being there, having merely asked him if he knew such a person.

I produced the search warrant, and then the doctor "came down," as the boys express it.

We entered and, as I expected, found Jim Shin and wife. They were arrested. We kept on, and under the leadership of the "doctor" was led to a room in which was confined *Marian Littlefield.* Of the criminal part of my story little remains to be told. The guilty parties were punished according to law.

The *modus operandi* of the crime came out at the trial. It seems that "Jim Shin" was something of a hypnotist, and through this medium got possession of Marian. Jim's partner then "made up" as Marian and went to the latter's home. As Marian she induced Mr. Littlefield to cash all available property and withdraw his money from the bank. Just how this was accomplished was not told, but probably hypnotism had something to do with it.

No lives would have been sacrificed in the consummation of the scheme had not old man Littlefield discovered the deception and imparted his discovery to his wife. To silence them murder was committed.

Leaving Marian in proper care for the restoration of her health. I left for home, and in my pocket was *the missing part of the severed stamp.*

I had told Marian the story of my meeting with her lover, of my hunt for her, and at my request she let me have *the severed specimen.*

Arriving home I went to the asylum. Soon I was in conversation with Maurice Stockton, who was about to be pronounced cured and was to be liberated the next day. To him I told the story of my success. He produced the right half, *I produced the left, the severed parts matched.*

It was still a "severed specimen," but not sundered. They were together as one.

As those separated ports met, so did my friend Stockton and Miss Littlefield a few days later; as were the sundered parts united, as were two loyal, loving hearts.

His trouble gone, Maurice was his old self again, and not a vestige of his mental trouble remained. After the several years of travel following his college experience he had become demented and was committed by friends where he had happened to be. He had nearly recovered and had escaped when I met him on the train; yet unwittingly he had come back.

They were quietly married, and went south for Marian's health.

They now have a magnificent stamp collection, but not a specimen therein holds place with THE SEVERED SPECIMEN.

MY NOVA SCOTIA SHILLING.

BY CHAS. E. JENNEY.

TO introduce myself, it will only be necessary to say that I am a stamp collector. I have scraped together by various means in the course of ten years about three thousand varieties. In the course of my collecting I have met with many adventures, amusing and otherwise, have had lots of fun and have got together a collection of which I am very proud, although it is not what would be called a valuable one. Many of my stamps I have come by in queer and extraordinary manners, and I have a Nova Scotia shilling, the history of whose acquisition I must relate to you.

It was about three years ago, when my collection was about half its present size. I had a pretty fair lot of Nova Scotia stamps, but the possession of a genuine shilling was a little beyond my expectations at that time. I was on a visit to a friend in New York City and had taken in all the sights of the big city, visited all the stamp dealers and made a few small purchases, and was on the lookout for finds and I found one. I had my album with me, but had never shown it to my cousins. One evening I was sitting in the library hinging a few new purchases into my album, when my cousin Fanny, who was alone with me (the rest had gone to the theatre), asked me to play a game of euchre.

"All right," said I, "as soon as I have stuck in two more stamps."

"So you are a stamp crank, are you?" said she. "You are almost as bad as my friend, Alice Murray used to be. I never told you about it, did I?" she continued. "I guess she has got more stamps than you ever saw—an awful lot; she papered her room with them."

"What," said I, "stuck them all over the walls?"

"Yes. About three years ago she heard of somebody papering a room with old postage stamps, and, as her father has lots of stamps come to him, she thought she would try it. She asked all her friends to save them up for her, and in about a year had a whole trunkful—an awful lot—I do not remember just how many, but it must have been almost a million. Then she had what she called a papering bee. She sent out invitations to all her friends to help her stick them on the walls of her room. The trunkful of stamps was placed in the middle of the room, and there were benches and step-ladders for the boys to climb up on, for they had to paper the ceiling and top of the walls, and we girls began at the mouldings and worked upward. There were a lot of dishes of paste already made up, and we set to work. We had great fun, and every once in a while we found funny stamps with such queer pictures on them. When we got tired of pasting, we had games out in the other rooms, and refreshments. We met twice a week for seven or eight weeks, and at the last 'bee' we finished the room, having papered the four walls and the ceiling so that there was not the least speck of plastering showing through. Then we had dedicatory exercises and speeches and toasts, and all that sort of thing, you know, and then we voted for the prettiest stamp on the walls. The most of them voted for a funny square purple stamp with a pretty leaf design on it—I think it said New Brunswick, or Nova Scotia, or something like that, on it. I thought it was pretty, but I thought a little red one with a beaver on it was prettier; it was so odd, too. You have one like it? Yes, that is it."

"Who is Alice Murray? Where does she live? Has she got the stamps on the walls now? Do you suppose I could see them? Could you introduce me?"

These questions were rapidly rattled off from my tongue with an interest and energy that showed me thoroughly in earnest, and Fanny replied to them as thoroughly as she could. Alice Murray was a friend of hers—a real nice girl—she knew that I would like her. Yes, of course she would introduce me.

Well, I did not take much interest in our game of euchre that evening and Fanny beat me shamefully, for thoughts of that stamp-adorned room floated through my brain, and that purple stamp—could it be a Nova Scotia shilling?

I dreamed that night that my bed room was papered with Nova Scotia shillings, and even the morning light scarcely drove the purple mist from before my eyes.

A few evenings later, I was introduced to Miss Murray. In spite of prescribed customs on such occasions, she was not charmingly beautiful nor did I fall in love with her at first sight. She was just an ordinary young lady, with an attractive face and pleasing manner, and I mentally sized her up as tip-top. Fanny told her I was a stamp collector, and how I was interested in hearing that she had so many.

"Oh," she said, "you are interested in stamps. Well, you must come up and see mine. Everybody says it is quite a curiosity, but it has become quite an old story to me." And then she told me how she had got the idea, how she had collected the stamps and how they had been put in place. She said that she had had almost a waste basket full left over, but she had destroyed them. There were about five hundred thousand stamps on the walls. As this was a common hobby to us, we got so interested in talking it over that in a short time we came to feel like old friends. I had expressed a very earnest wish to see her room, and she had again heartily invited me to call and do so.

"Well," said Fanny the next morning, "how did you like my friend, Alice Murray? You spent most all the evening talking with her. Isn't she sweet?"

"She is very nice," said I, "and we had a fine time talking over stamps."

"Stamps!" said Fanny; "Pshaw! couldn't you find anything more agreeable to talk about to a young lady?"

"Well, we got on very nicely," said I, "and she has invited me to call and see her."

"Oh, oh, oh, you are a sly one! Shall you go?"

"Yes, of course; why not?"

So a few days later Fanny and I called on Miss Murray and found her at home. After a little conversation, the subject of which I do not remember, although the charming manner of our hostess remained impressed on my memory, she said:—

"I suppose you want to see the stamp room. Come this way, please."

I felt a little awed at entering this virgin sanctum, but my philatelic enthusiasm arose within me as I discovered at once a rare Japanese stamp just at my right on entering.

"Isn't this great!" said I.

"Here," she said, "is the stamp we thought was the prettiest."

She walked over to the opposite side of the room and raised the shades a trifle higher, and there, just above our heads, was the Nova Scotia shilling. My admiration was outspoken, and when she saw that I recognized the stamp and seemed to set a great value on it she was surprised and asked about it. I told

her of its value and how eagerly it was sought by collectors, and then I told her about other stamps and showed her that she had some rare ones among the many common ones on the walls. She listened with interest, and I found I had gained another devotee for Philatelia.

I found many stamps new to me on the walls, although of course the greater part were common Americans. I felt as though I was walking around inside the covers of a great stamp album. The ceiling was covered entirely with blue stamps, a great many of the fifteen centimes French being among the number, but the sides of the room were covered in a style which our grandmothers called "hit or miss," which gave the room a decidedly Oriental appearance. So interested did I become in examining the walls that our call was prolonged considerably beyond what is considered the proper time for a call in New York, and Fanny had to remind me that it was already getting late. I parted reluctantly with Miss Murray and her stamps, but was partly consoled by a promise from her to call and see my collection.

My stay in New York lasted another month, and after this I often met Miss Murray and we became very intimate. She informed me one day that she was going to have the stamps soaked off, that is, all the good ones, and her room papered with a less expensive paper, and she was going to start a collection of stamps. Would I come up some time and show her which ones to save? Of course I would be delighted to. And so she began collecting. She gave me several of which she had duplicates, which added to my collection, and I advised her in the purchase of an album and a catalogue. She learned very rapidly and became an enthusiast. Of course she retained the Nova Scotia shilling. She had offered it to me when I first expressed my admiration for it, but I declined to accept a gift so valuable in my eyes, and she now kept it as the gem of her album.

One day we were out for a ride in the country. I had got out of the carriage to pick a flower for her when a freight train rushed by near us. The horses became frightened and stood upon their haunches, and were just starting to run as I leaped for the bridle. I caught it, however, and my hold was good. I was dragged about a hundred yards, and came out of it with no worse mishap than a broken arm. Miss Murray was not even frightened on her own account, but I noticed she was almost as pale as I was before I fainted, a little later, from the pain. A week later, with my arm in a sling, I left New York for my Canadian home. Miss Murray was at the station to see me off and pressed into my hand a little present, she said, which she wished me to accept. She would be very sorry if I did not, and she wanted me to wait till I got home before I opened it. I promised and then bid her good-bye, received a promise from her to write, and the cars sped out to northward. I felt a little lonesome to think that it would be many a long month, perhaps years, before I should see Miss Murray again.

Two days afterwards I was at home, and almost my first act after greeting my parents and brothers was to go to my room and open the little envelope that Alice had given me. You have probably guessed it already. It was the Nova Scotia shilling. My first thought was to write to her, enclosing it and refusing to accept it, but upon further thought I changed my mind, and so I have it to-day. Not only is it the most valuable stamp in my collection from a monetary standpoint, but from its associations I rank it far above all the rest.

I still correspond with Miss Murray and hope some day to meet her again and compare collections with her. I sometimes ask her if she does not regret parting with the Nova Scotia stamp, but she always replies that if it had been a "Connell" or a "Brattleboro" she would have given it as cheerfully.

STRAY FANCIES.

BY ROY F. GREENE.

As I turn o'er the leaves of my album.
With face full of joy and of glee,
Queer costumes of knights and fair ladies
Glide forth and seem beck'ning to me;
Long trains of those noted in history
Their destinies seem to pursue,
And pass me in grandeur so stately,
As armies pass by in review.

I see the bright fruits of the tropics;
The Italian olives so green,
The orange and figs of the Grecian,
And currants the finest e'er seen.
In fancy I see India's poppies,
Nutmegs of the brown Siamese;
The indigo plant of Columbia,
And the tea from the heathen Chinese.

And the sinews and brains of these nations—
The great common people, the best—
Who develop resources, and labor
With energy, vigor and zest.
I see the plain Newfoundland fisher,
The French cultivating the vine;
The sugar plantations of Cuba,
And Russian deep down in the mine.

I can see the sweet milkmaids in Holland,
The Swiss and their carvers of clocks;
The granite and marble of Scotland,
And ship builders at the Clyde docks;
The glass blowers there in Bohemia,
The gatherers of cork here in Spain;
The Brazilian coffee plantations,
And India's tall fields of grain.

They tell me Philately's worthless,
I'm wasting my money and time.
But let these dissenters awaken,
And look o'er these notable lines
Of sages, and patriots, and workers,
Who stand at each nation's helm.
And I'll venture, within twenty-four hours
They'll come to Philately's realm.

Are your Files

Of THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST complete? If not, now is the time to complete them. The supply of back numbers is small. While they last they can be had at the following prices: Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18 and 19 at 10c. each. Nos. 7 and 16 are 25c. each. Complete your files before it is too late.

The Philatelic Poet has come to stay,
Well! Every dog must have his day;
But when he's dead we'll all feel gay,
And sing—Ta-ra-ra boom de-ay!

The No. in the bracket on your wrapper indicates when your subscription expires.

WHY DO WE IGNORE THEM?

BY ROY F. GREENE.

WHEN the United States, in 1878, ceased to issue adhesives for the use of the various departments of national affairs, and substituted therefor a series of so-called "penalty' envelopes, philatelists at once ignored these successors of the popular departments, and no value whatever is set upon them by cataloguers.

This has always seemed strangely queer to me, and I have sought in vain for a good reason for their being cast aside as of no consequence, and no spaces left in our albums for them.

I may seem bold in rushing into print in defence of these stamps which a popular verdict has seemed to cast aside, but there seems to be a diversity of opinion on the subject, and a great many collectors are asking themselves the question, whether these will ever be collected, hence I feel that at least a reason should be given for their unpopularity.

Of course they are not pretty, but they are a true governmental issue, they are the natural successors of the bright colored departments, they are used postally, and are certainly true postage stamps.

While I would not be accused of championing their cause, I nevertheless feel them to be much more worthy of a place in our albums than other stamps for which spaces are provided. For example there are the Bavarian return letter stamps which at best look like trade mark labels, and of the cheapest and least artistic designs at that.

Who can say that they are more worthy a place in our collections than these same penalty envelopes?

Then the insured letter stamps of Columbia, with their different varieties of borders which enthuse the advanced collectors, and the thousand and one other emissions of foreign governments that collectors and dealers seize upon and go wild over, no matter how unworthy they may be to grace our album's pages.

And then the collecting of bands and seals used by the post office department that really have no postal significance, and which in a slang sense "come high but we must have them."

After all these extremes and a seeming desire on the part of some to create enthusiasm over every bit of scrap paper which emanates from the postal department, still these penalty envelopes are ignored.

Perhaps the grand Moguls who dictate to us what we shall and shall not collect have ruled wisely in casting this particular issue into the realms of unsought specimens, but we can cite precedents where other stamps have been held up for public worship none the more worthy.

Still in arguing the *pros* and *cons* of this question I have been led to ask where this thing is ever going to stop, for if we collect these penalty stamps on the grounds that they are legitimate because used postally, why not for the same reason collect the franks of the 444 members of Congress and the 88 United States Senators, whose autographs in the upper right-hand corner of an envelope containing public documents are sufficent to insure their prompt delivery by the emissaries of Uncle Sam's postal service.

So it seems we must draw the line somewhere, and it may be that it has wisely been drawn at these same department envelopes, but since these are ignored I shall hope to see in future so-called standard catalogues some of the conflicting features eliminated, and the same Bavarian "return letter" stamps and like specimens relegated to the rear.

"Oh consistency, thou art a jewel."

But still, many of the younger collectors are trying to complete their sets of these same penalty envelopes, and some are even laying by a stock hoping they may some day command attention. In my own collection I have nearly a complete set of these stamps arranged on a blank page, and while they lack artistic force they are, as I think, pleasing to look upon as successors of the now so popular departmental issue.

Everyone has, without donbt, their opinions of this subject, and from them I would like to hear of the reasons why they should be ignored.

Correspondents' Column.

[This column is open to all, and we hope you will take the opportunity to express yourself on any Philatelic question. Those who want any information should send in their queries, which will be published in the following number.]

J. L. B.—We have no knowledge of any stamp paper published in Edinburgh, Scotland.

L. S., Albert Lea, Minn.—If *postally used* the stamp mentioned by you is worth about 10 or 15 cents.

G. M. W., Louisville, Ky.—(1) If you are unable to hear from the Custom authorities at Toronto, write The Minister of Customs, Ottawa, Canada. (2) Your advt. was only paid for two insertions.

St. John, N. B., April 10, 1893.

I wish to warn collectors to be on the lookout for bogus split stamps (provisionals) of New Brunswick, on "original envelopes." An irresponsible young fellow of this city (whose name I will withhold for the present) is putting these things on the market for sale or exchange. His plan is to get the common 5c. green on the envelopes (the cancellation covering the stamp only, and not extending to the envelope) remove the stamp and substitute one-half of an unused 10c., which is then neatly cancelled with a rubber stamp made in exact imitation of the old "gridiron" cancellation of New Brunswick. The forgery is difficult to detect, but in most cases the cancellation is of a somewhat deeper black, and has a fresher appearance than the genuine provisionals. I have reason to believe that this party is also manufacturing Nova Scotian as well as New Brunswick splits in the manner described. The existence of such forgeries might tend to throw discredit upon genuine split provisionals, my own for example. Persons obtaining any doubtful stamps of this kind from this city or neighborhood will do well to send them to me for inspection. I will gladly advise as to their genuineness, and in the case of forgeries will, if necessary, take measures to have the offender punished according to law.

R. W. HANNINGTON,
Barrister-at Law, &c.

P. S. C., 28; S. of P., 299.

Collectors who have not as yet seen the new price-list of the Standard Stamp Co. should send for a copy at once. It consists of 64 pages, fully illustrated, with a handsome cover. A copy will be sent free upon application by addressing above firm at 925 LaSalle street, St. Louis, o. (Advt.)

THE MONTH.

As our readers will readily see, this is a new department, our object being to give our subscribers all the latest news in as brief a form as possible.—The Halifax branch, Knights of Philatelia, held their regular meeting on March 15th. Attendance only fair. An enjoyable evening was spent. G. E. Nichols, 197 S. Park Place, New York, is the Secretary.—H. A. Fowler, of Toronto, is shortly to issue the *Canadian Journal of Philately*, as will be seen elsewhere. It promises to be a representative magazine, but it seems to us that the subscription is somewhat high. —The new 8 cent stamp of both the Columbian and small issues are now on sale. as also are the Columbian envelopes.—The new official organ of the Western Philatelic Union for the coming year is the *Metropolitan Philatelist.*—Guelph, Ont., has just organized a live Philatelic Club. One of the first things the club did was to forward their subscription to the CANADIAN PHILATELIST, which they consider *the best* philatelic magazine for the price. Secretary, Leonard Galbraith, Box 596, Guelph, Ont.—The 1 cent Columbian has been touched up and appears in a lighter shade than formerly.—We are told that *Roger's Philatelic Blue-Book* will be published and mailed by May 1st without fail. Mr. Rogers is to be congratulated on the successful completion of a work of so much importance to Philately.—Have you ordered a copy of the official catalogue of the American Philatelic Association World's Fair exhibit? You should do so.—The *Pennsylvania Philatelist* is going to issue a special 100 page Columbian issue in May. If the publishers carry out their prospectus to the letter it promises to be an excepitonally fine number.—The business of the Chicago Postage Stamp Co., of Chicago, Ill., is in the hands of the receiver, who states that all accounts will be paid within 60 days.—The P. S. of C. receives 8 new members and 4 applications according to the Secretary's report for April. —The American Dealers' and Collectors' Philatelic Association, which was organized Jan. 1st, 1893, is now well under way with a membership of nearly 50 prominent dealers and collectors. The official organ, the *Eagle Philatelist*, is sent to all members, and will contain full accounts of the doings of this society. The main object of this society is to protect the members from frauds, there being one officer whose entire attention will be to watch for them and notify the members of their existence. The departments will be the same as in any other society, and all good-standing philatelists are invited to join. Dues, 50c. per year. No other expense and no initiation fee. C. D. Reimers, of Auburn Park, Ill., is the newly elected President; L. M. Lang, of 752 N. Eutoff St., Baltimore, Md., is the Secretary.—The exhibit of the stamps of India and Ceylon which was recently held by the London Philatelic Society was such a success that it is intended to hold another exhibition shortly. —It is said that the *Western Philatelist* will not appear.—Now that the Columbian 8 cent stamp is issued someone starts and advocates a 13 cent stamp. Well, some people are never satisfied!—We see by the *Long Island Philatelist* that both Greece and Transvaal are to issue new sets of stamps in May.—Are you a member of the P. S. of C.? If not, you should send at once to the Secretary. Mr. H. F. Mooers, of Kingston, Ont., for particulars, which he will cheerfully forward.—Mr. H. S. Dickson, of this city, informs us that it is altogether probable that he will not issue another number of the *Philatelic Journal of Canada*, probably for the same reason that caused that Journal to omit issuing a December and January number.—While speaking of Mr. Dickson, we might also say that he has moved from his little office in the Robinson Hall Chambers and announces his intention of retiring as a stamp dealer.—Mr. Alva Davidson has resigned the editorship of the *Post Office.*—Mr. R. F. Albrecht & Co. hold a very important sale of U. S. stamps on April 18th and 19th. It will be their 13th sale, and among the many nice stamps offered will be the following:—6 copies of the New York, 1843, 3 cent blue, various shades and papers; New York, 1845, 5 cent black, 8 copies, amongst which is to be found an unused copy on watermarked paper which is unique; St. Louis 10 cent, unused; Franklin Carrier; an unused and a used 3 cent scarlet, also an unused 3 cent grilled all over, in perfect condition, and another on the entire. The sale is also rich in Confederate Provisionals. You should send for a catalogue to the publishers at 90 Nassau St., N. Y.—The October, November and December numbers of the *Philatelic Fraud Reporter* came to hand about the 1st of April.—The *Stamp Collector's Companion* is now ready for delivery and as it is a book that every collector should possess, you should order a copy at once. The edition is limited to 1,000 copies. See advertisement elsewhere.—The design on the new 8 cent Columbian stamp is Columbus restored to favor, while the 8 cent to correspond with the 1890 issue bears the portrait of General Sherman.—Local societies are now being organized on all parts of the continent. This is a step in the right direction.—S. Allen Taylor says that Canada will never issue any more stamps. He prophesies that at the next election the Dominion will be absorbed by the glorious republic(?). We are thankful we are not of the same opinion.—It is said the *Ottawa Philatelist* is to be raised from the dead. We trust it will be an improvement over its previous numbers.—It is said that counterfeit Newfoundland 10 cent black of the 1866 issue are in circulation. They are unperforated, and evidently have been printed from a catalogue cut, and are obliterated by a piece of cork in imitation of the old post mark.—The following is the latest joke on the Columbian stamps. A few days ago a lady of our city stepped up to the stamp window at the post office and asked for stamps. The always blushing clerk threw out some of the new Columbian style, when she exclaimed, "Oh, I don't wish picture cards" The clerk exploded and the lady is now posting herself on the various styles of new stamps.—The Toronto Philatelic Club have submitted a petition to the Minister of Customs to take some action in regard to the matter of outrageous duties being charged on stamps at Toronto.—It is said that it is not hard to collect the stamps of Afghanistan and native India after you have learned the language.

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EDITORIAL.

On Specialism. A few words on specialism. When starting a collection specialism is not advisable. Do not be too hasty in selecting a field for specialism. When you are below the 2,000 mark, keep to general collecting, and when you have reached that number of varieties, you will be better qualified to judge which stamps you prefer, and those most advantageous from a financial point of view, to collect. It is often preferable when a general collector becomes a specialist not to drop general collecting entirely, but to retain all of your collection, simply devoting a little more attention to one portion or district than to another. This style of specialism is preferable to that which devotes its attention to a single country. Specialists usually make a specialty of their own or neighboring countries. American collectors are partial to the stamps of the United States and British North America.

* * *

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The Stamp Collector's Companion. This valuable little book is now ready for delivery. It will no donbt have a large sale. To the collector who has not already ordered a copy we would refer them to the advertisement. A feature of the book which will be especially useful to those collectors who have foreign correspondents is the Foreign Coinage Table, in which is given the currency of nearly all principal stamp issuing countries and its equivalent value in United States and Canadian currency. Regarding the value of the many definitions and explanations of difficult philatelic terms nothing need be said. The book also contains a large number of useful hints and suggestions and other matter of like nature. Space prevents further review. Procure a copy and read it yourself. The price is low. See advertisement.

* * *

Sample Copies. A large number of sample copies of this issue are sent out to collectors who are not on our subscription books. We trust you will examine this number, and should you desire to see us regularly, forward your subscription, for we send but one sample to one person. We guarantee 12 numbers, or refund subscription. You should subscribe.

* * *

Re Pardoe's Operations. In a previous issue we gave our readers a hint to the effect that Thomas O. Pardoe, Jr., who carried his swindling operations on to such an extent from Ingersoll, Ont., was operating under the name of a Company from Toronto. We give a little extended information this issue to additionaly warn our patrons. This party is shadowing himself under the name of The Toronto Stamp Concern. He is at present sending out circulars accompanied by *coupons*, offering rare Canadian stamps at outrageously low prices. These coupons are all numbered, and any collector lucky (?) enough to obtain a certain number, can by sending an order for a dollar or more, enclosing this coupon, receive free, a rare stamp. It is a fact that nearly all the coupons sent out have thereon the same lucky numbers. This is a scheme to lure on the collectors to send their money for stamps, which, to judge by this boy's (for he is nothing more) former operations, that they will never receive. As we have before said, caution should be used in dealing with this party, and it would in all probability be better for your pocket book's welfare to avoid him altogether.

* * *

Our Retail List. We would call the attention of our customers to the fact that our Third Annual Retail List has just been issued, and it is larger, cheaper and better than ever before. Every collector and dealer should possess a copy. To those who have not yet received it, we shall be pleased to forward it, *post free* on application.

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—THE INITIAL NUMBER OF THE—

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Will appear on the 1st of June next, and every month thereafter, promptly on the date of issue. It will contain from forty to sixty pages each issue, and with each number will be presented a photo. of some leading dealer or prominent collector, accompanied by a biography. It will be the only Journal published that will give its readers, each month, a complete "Chronicle of New Issues" in their original colors. There will be from three to five **COLORED PLATES** of stamps given monthly; but, the feature of the whole Journal will be a full description of the **U. S. ADHESIVE STAMPS,** and with which will be given a **plate shewing the stamps in their original colors.** This will make it invaluable to collectors and dealers, as it will enable them to distinguish, at a glance, the the different varieties, shades, errors, etc., and such colors as carmine, rose, scarlet, crimson and the rare pink, etc. We have secured the **MOST PROMINENT AND BEST WRITERS** on our staff, besides on excellent staff of translators, which will be kept up at a very great expense, thus enabling us to correspond in any language.

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Native Indian States, 10 varieties	25
" " " 20 "	60
" " " 50 "	2 50
Puttialla State, 3 fine varieties	06
*Salvador, 1891, 10 varieties complete	35
*U. S. Interior, 1c and 2c, scarce	15
Spain, 50 fine varieties	50
U. S., 1857, 1c, blue	09
Azores, 3 choice varieties	05
New York, 3c., blue, glazed paper, fine	**15**
Alsace and Lorraine reprints, 7 varieties, complete	10
Australia, 10 varieties	05
Bosnia, 7 varieties, comp'ete	20
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Bulgaria, unpaid, 1886, 5s and 25s	12
" " 1887, 5s and 25s	10
U. S., 1855, 10c., green, fine	**20**
Belgium Postal Packet, 7 varieties	10
Canada, 1859, 12½c., green	18
British Columbia, 3d, blue, scarce	50
" " 1861, 2½d, pink, perf	1 40
" " 1865, 10c. blue, unsevered pair	2 75
South-African Republic, 1870-71, 5 var	**35**
*Servia, 1869, 5 varieties	10
*Canada, Registration, 8c, blue	1 00
Cuba, 25 varieties, a bargain	50
Canada, 1859, 1, 5, 10, 12½, 17 cent	90
*Samoa, 1877-82, 8 varieties complete, reprints	10
Nova Scotia, 1d, fine	4 50
" " 3d, "	95
" " 2c mauve	25
" " 5c blue	11
Egypt, unpaid, 1889, 4 varieties complete	20
U. S., 1861, 5c., yellow, fine	**4 10**
Tunis, 1888, type II., 1 to 40c., 6 var	**18**
*Holkar, 1892, ¼, ½, 1 and 2 annas	25
Portugal, 1875-79, 150 and 300 reis	12
Portugal, 13 fine varieties	10
Russia, 12 varieties	10
Funchal, 5, 10, 25 reis	**12**
Portuguese Indies, 3 varieties	5
U. S. War Dept., 11 var.. complete	2 00
***New Brunswick 1, 2, 5 and 17c.,** a bargain	**40**
***New Brunswick 2 and 5c.,** a bargain	**10**
Newfoundland, 3 cent, brown	3
Canada, 1868, 1c watermarked maker's name	1 00
" 1868, 1c red-brown	12
*Canada, 1868, 12½c blue	30
Canada, 1858, ½d pink, fine	4 40
" 1858, 3d red, fine	1 50
" 1852, 3d red	60
" 1852, 6d violet	3 50
*Puttialla State, error "Auttialla" red sch	1 00
Mexico, 1884, 50c. green, cheap	**8**
Mexico, 1884, 1 peso, blue	**30**
Mexico, 20 and 25, scarlet	5
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" 1856-92, 50 varieties	1 00
" Revenues, 10 fine varieties	10
" " 15 "	25
" " 25 "	50
" " 50 "	1 00
Canada, 1859, 10c violet	17
" 1870, 3c laid paper	1 50
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Canada Bill, 10 varieties	5
Puerto Rico, 25 varieties, a bargain	50
U. S., 1869, 6c blue	$ 30
" 1861-62, 1, 2 and 3c	05
*Canada, officially sealed, fine	1 75
U. S., 100 varieties	1 00
" 30 "	10
" Locals, 15 varieties	25
" American Rapid Telegraph, 16 var. complete	50
" Telegraph, 30 fine varieties	1 00
Sweden Losen, 10 varieties complete	18
" official, 11 " "	15
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Italy, unpaid, 50 and 100 lire	**30**
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" " $3 green and black, original gum	75
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" " " blue and black	6
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*Bolivar, 1c "	2
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1000 " " "	6 50
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10 Philatelic Papers, post free	11
Turkey, 10 varieties	10
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" " 1890, "	10
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Gibraltar, 2 varieties	6
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